



BEAVER CITY.

Where is *Beaver City*?

ABOUT the centre of *Beaver County, Pa.*, which you will find pretty minutely described in the following pages:

But why have we not heard more of this *Beaver City*? Because the name has been but recently suggested, as an appropriate *general term* for a community of small villages or towns, clustering round the *Mouth and Falls of Beaver River*, like so many wards of a great city, viz: Brighton, New Brighton, Fallston, Sharon, Bolesville, Beavertown, Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, Fairport, Freedom, Philipsburg, &c.

These villages, in consequence of their unrivalled natural advantages of water power, coal mines, &c., and the fact that eight or ten rail-roads and canals are here to find a common centre, have, within the last three years, spread and increased so rapidly, as already to interlock, and thus constitute a continuous town some four miles up the Beaver, with a population of nearly six thousand enterprising inhabitants; who, after a few years of rivalry and strife, for the ascendancy of their respective locations, have lately discovered the truth, that they are only parts of one common whole, or members of the same family; and it was therefore proposed that they assume a *family name*,—the whys and wherefores of their choosing *Beaver City*, are hereafter set forth under their proper head, for which, and various other subjects in connexion, see the index at the end of this pamphlet.

For the apparent want of order in the arrangement of the following matter, let it be remarked, that it is composed of several letters, and occasional descriptions, hastily written from time to time for the neighbouring *newspapers*, without reference to method, or the idea of their ever appearing in connexion. But the eagerness with which inquiries are constantly made, from almost every part of the United States, and the fact that my former descriptions are out of print, have driven me to the necessity, in self-defence, of answering at *wholesale*, the hundreds who are inundating me with their interrogatories respecting the growing importance of this highly favoured location.

I am *interrogated* from New England about our facilities for manu-

facturing woollens, cottons, silks, porcelain, and the whole catalogue of Yankee notions, from a thrashing machine to a tooth-pick.

From New York, the inquiry is about our commercial facilities with the Mississippi valley, the great north-west, and the "far west," and whether the early establishment of extensive commercial houses at the mouth of Beaver, connected with mills and manufactories at the Falls, and again with other houses in New Orleans, Louisville, Buffalo, &c., would not enable them, (the New Yorkers,) through the assistance of agents, transportation lines upon the Ohio and Pennsylvania canals and rail-roads, and the same upon Lake Erie and the New York canals, to get the "*weather guage*," as it were, of the Pennamites, and thus secure the *wheat* and *flour* of Ohio, and the *trade* of the mighty west.

From Philadelphia, they inquire about the manufacturing of flour, the establishment of lumber yards and tanneries, printing of calicoes, wall paper, &c., with the price of beef, butter, chickens; and *whether*, with real Pennsylvania decision of character, perseverance, untiring energy, immense capital, and possession of the field, there is not yet some little chance for the citizens of *Brotherly Love*, to keep these same *New Yorkers* from stepping in to monopolise the whole, and reap the rich harvest which Pennsylvania has been maturing by the labour of years, and the expenditure of millions.

From Baltimore, I am asked about the growing of beet sugar and tobacco, the manufacturing of negro cloths, bale ropes, cotton bagging, &c., for the Southern market, and the like.

From Virginia, North Carolina, and a hundred other places, about our canel coal, our iron ore, aluminous clays, and the probability of a national armoury and cannon foundry, at the Falls of Beaver.

From western New York and Ohio, the leading question is, when will your U. S. Bank commence discounting?—after which, a few questions respecting the speedy completion of our rail-roads and canals to Lake Erie, the price of building lots by the *foot front* and coal lands *by the acre*—the scene closes.

Now, after wasting reams of paper, in my best endeavours to appease the cravings of a hungry community by letter writing, till I have grown gray in the service, I have at last determined to sum up the whole matter, in the following pages, and sell it to any body who is willing to buy and pay for it, whether they read it or not; for of writing letters there is no end, except this be so called.

M. T. C. GOULD, of Beaver City.

Philadelphia, Nov. 1836.

A DESCRIPTION
OF THE
FALLS OF BEAVER, &c.

IN 1835, WITH ADDITIONS FOR 1836.

The Beaver River is composed of the Mahoning, the Shenango, the Neshannock, Conaquenessing, Slippery rock, &c. &c. It drains a very fertile valley of at least 5000 square miles, and running southerly, empties into the Ohio, at its extreme northern bend, twenty-eight miles below Pittsburg, about eighty-five miles, in a direct line, from the nearest point of Lake Erie, fifteen miles from the extreme north-western corner of the state of Virginia, and twelve miles from the line that separates the state of Ohio from the state of Pennsylvania. The Beaver River, within the last five miles of its course, falls sixty-nine feet, furnishing water power and eligible sites for 500 mills. Its confluence with the Ohio is near the centre of the county of Beaver, which lies on both sides of both these rivers—contains 646 square miles and about 35,000 inhabitants.

The *Falls* of Beaver, before the hand of man broke in upon the order of nature, commenced about five miles from its confluence with the Ohio, and consisted of a succession of *rapids* for about two-thirds of that distance. But by individual enterprise and State patronage, the stream has been made to assume a succession of *pools* and *artificial cataracts*, as follow—viz: 5 miles from its mouth is a *dam* of 15 feet—4 miles from the mouth *another*, giving a head and fall of 20 feet—3 miles from the mouth *two others*, giving, together, a head and fall of 19 feet, and *one* just at the mouth, of 15 feet—aggregate fall in five miles, 69 feet.

The *valley* of the Beaver, in the vicinity of the Falls, is from half a mile to a mile wide, and the *stream* from 400 to 600 feet. The valley is bounded on the east and west by high, and in some places, perpendicular hills—the channel has a continued bed of solid rock. Immediately at the head of the Falls, the river takes a direction to the south-east, until it meets a bold and rocky precipice along which it circles to the south, leaving on its *western shore* an extensive plain of from 20 to 50 feet above the level of low water. This is the site of *Brighton*, early distinguished for its *iron works*.

The current, checked in its course to the south-east, is projected across the valley to the south-west, until it meets the resistance of the western hills, leaving on its *eastern shore* a plain similar to the one just noticed, this is the site of *New Brighton*. Again arrested in its course, it gradually resumes its general direction to the south, dividing its valley in such manner as to permit the occupancy of both its banks.

This locality, of the immense water power afforded by the Beaver, offers every facility for its employment in propelling machinery, while the adjacent level plains, present the most eligible sites for work-shops, and the most pleasant and healthy situations for the residence of man. The *first* plain on the west side is in extent amply sufficient for a large manufacturing town—the *second*, on the east side, is also about one and a half mile in length, by half a mile in breadth; whilst at *Fallston*, directly opposite, it is so narrow as to admit of but one or two streets.

By this arrangement, the water may be taken from the four dams first above described, to any amount not actually required by the *State*, for supplying *two miles of canal, and six locks*—viz: to the head of steam-boat navigation, which is two miles up the Beaver, from its junction with the Ohio.

The dam of fifteen feet, at the mouth of the Beaver, was erected by the *State*, for the purpose of rendering the stream *navigable for steam-boats*, to the very foot of the immense water power already described—this is effected by means of two enormous locks of fifteen feet lift. The water power at this place, though at most seasons of the year available to a vast extent, has not been considered of so much importance, on account of the frequent rises in the *Ohio*, though it is not improbable, that at some future period, it may acquire a value in the estimation of the public, but little anticipated at this time.

It will be perceived by the above statement, that the immense water power of the Beaver, is *directly, and at all times*, available, for a distance of *two miles*, up and down the stream—with a fall of 54 feet—below which, is a *navigable river, pool or basin* of two miles in length, by 500 feet in breadth, for the accommodation of *steam-boats, keel boats and canal boats*.

The importance of this location will be more readily conceived, when it is known, that in the very infancy of business at the Falls, the manufactures are computed at about \$250,000 per annum—to which may be added at least \$100,000 a year for the manufacture of steam and keel boats, within two miles of the mouth of Beaver.

But apart from all this, the place is soon to become the centre of

an immense business up and down the Ohio, as well as that upon the Sandy and Beaver Canal, the Mahoning Canal, the Beaver and Erie Canal, the Pittsburg and Beaver Canal, or *Rail-Road*; and a railroad, which, leaving the great Southern Rail-Road of New York, in Cattaraugus or Chautauque County and passing by the western bend of the Allegheny river, near Franklin, will terminate at this point, which is the extreme northern bend of the Ohio River, and several miles nearer to Erie and the State of New York than any other point on the River.

There is probably no situation now remaining unoccupied, in the United States, where there is such an amount of water power, such eligible sites for improving it, such facilities of access, and such unlimited resources, as are here presented. The dams and mill races are completed, and the water power and sites are for sale at low prices.

The Commissioners appointed under an act of Congress some thirteen years ago, to establish a National Armory on the Western waters of the United States, after a patient, laborious, and scientific examination and estimate of all the prominent sites for water works, in Western Pennsylvania, Virginia, the States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana and Ohio, gave this site *a decided and merited preference—* (see their report, page 47.)

This report states that in the year 1822, when “the water was lower than at any former period within recollection, there was flowing through the channel or mill-race, at Fallston, 85 cubic feet per second; and the volume of the river was estimated to be three times that in the canal.” (See page 57.) Again, (page 59.) “The volume of water in the canal or race at a low stage, in ordinary seasons, does not exceed one-eighth of the whole volume of the river, and the whole quantity supplied by the river, at its lowest stage in 1822, was 236 cubic feet per second.” If we multiply 236, the cubic feet, by sixty-five, the head and fall, we have the whole water power of the falls expressed by the number 15340—sufficient to propel 168 *pair of five feet Burr Mill Stones*.

It will be recollected that the above report was made some thirteen years ago; that the calculations were based upon the data afforded by a *single dam*, the only one of any account then erected—there are now *four dams*, the upper one of which presents a head of *fifteen feet*, at the expense of an eight mile pool, above, now converted into a *navigable slack water* basin, about 400 feet wide; and creating an immense power, not recognised by the United States Engineers; one of whom has since acknowledged that their estimate was very far below

the facts of the case. Indeed it is the opinion of *many*, that the power is *at least quadruple* what they have stated.

Between the Falls and the mouth of Beaver, and directly upon the banks, are the villages of Sharon, Bolesville, Bridgewater and East Bridgewater—half a mile west of Bridgewater is the borough of Beaver; half a mile south, and directly opposite the mouth of Beaver, across the Ohio, is the village of Philipsburg, and two miles up the Ohio, the village of Freedom, between which and the mouth of Beaver, is a population of one hundred, claiming the village name of Fair Port. We have thus presented an aggregate of eleven small villages and boroughs, within three or four miles square, embracing a population of about 5000 souls, and the number rapidly increasing.

BEAVER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

The county of Beaver is bounded on the north by Mercer county, west by the state of Ohio, south by Washington county, and east by Allegheny and Butler counties. Its extreme length from north to south is 34 miles; its breadth 19, population about 35,000.

This county possesses a variety of advantages *rarely equalled, and perhaps no where excelled*. As an agricultural district, it enjoys privileges not possessed in their extent and variety by any of the neighbouring counties.

Next in importance to agricultural advantages, are those connected with the almost incalculable power afforded by a variety of streams in almost every part of the county. The falls of Big Beaver have been already described; but not one-twentieth of the power of these falls is yet *profitably employed*, although nature and art have done every thing to invite and facilitate the employment of the whole.

Through the county from east to west runs the majestic Ohio, opening to us, through the Allegheny and Monongahela, an intercourse with the north-east and south-east of several hundred miles, and through the Pennsylvania canal, &c., with the Eastern cities. If we take the direction down that stream, and avail ourselves of others with which it is connected and which are now navigable, we may traffic at the Muscle Shoals of Tennessee, the falls of St. Anthony, at the Rocky Mountains, or the Gulf of Mexico.

Near the centre of this county the Ohio river makes its most northern angle and nearest approach to the lakes, and at this point receives the Big Beaver, which flows in a direct line from Lake Erie, its branches interlocking with the tributaries of that lake. Scientific surveys have proved that by this route the shortest, cheapest, and best

water communication can be effected between Lake Erie and the Ohio river. By this arrangement nature has pointed out the mouth of Beaver as the great deposit or point of transit for the north-western trade, destined for the interior of this state and western Virginia—as also for the products or manufactures of the latter intended for the north-west. If, in the progress of improvement, experience should give a preference to Rail Roads over Canals, the advantages of our situation would in no degree be lessened. The valley of Beaver and its principal tributaries afford inclined planes, graded by the hand of nature, extending almost in a direct line and in the directions most desirable, of from 60 to 100 miles, and terminating at the very commencement of other inclined planes, having a Northern aspect and reaching to Lake Erie at any desirable point. Suppose such a communication perfected; (and the time is not distant when such an improvement cannot any longer be postponed) we will then have our selection to take advantage of the communication already noticed, or embark ourselves and our articles of traffic at our own doors to be transported with all the facilities and despatch incident to modern locomotion, first to Lake Erie—thence eastward to New York, Quebec, or West, propelled by wind or steam, we may traverse the straits of St. Clair, and Mackinaw, the lakes Huron, Michigan, Superior and others still farther north and west, an unmeasured distance, to regions almost unknown and unexplored.

The Falls of Beaver are evidently designed and fitted by a Master's hand to be a manufacturing emporium. Here is an immense water power, as permanent as the order of nature, as certain as the return of the seasons. A power sufficient to manufacture to the annual value of millions of dollars. A power that when once well applied will continue to operate without further expense—and so situated as to be easily and cheaply employed.

VILLAGES.

Brighton—A very delightful and promising village, on the west side of Beaver River, was at an early period distinguished for its iron works—it is now chiefly owned by Mr. J. Patterson formerly of Philadelphia, an enterprising capitalist, merchant, and manufacturer of cotton, flour, &c., and deeply interested in *lands and water power*, at the Falls of Beaver. He has, at this place, an uninterrupted head and fall of about twenty feet, besides a very considerable interest in the power both above and below. He has turned his attention not only to manufacturing, and agriculture in general, but particularly to

wool growing, and the cultivation of the *mulberry*, with reference to more extensive operations in the culture of *silk*, in this county—in which many of the inhabitants are beginning to be very zealous and active.

This village has about fifty dwellings, fifty or sixty families, and about four hundred inhabitants, a great proportion of whom are employed, directly or indirectly, by Mr. Patterson. There is at this place, also, a large paper mill, upon the most improved plan, capital \$20,000. Coal of the best quality, is also abundant, and is delivered at 4½ cents per bushel. Water power, to almost any extent, is now for sale by Mr. Patterson, and also by the owners, at the upper dam, one mile above.

New Brighton—situated on the east side of Beaver, opposite the middle and lower Falls—at the termination of the Beaver Canal, and head of Steam Boat Navigation, though comparatively a wilderness in 1830, has now about one hundred dwellings, many of them well built of brick; and more than one hundred families, with a population of eight or nine hundred inhabitants. There are four taverns, four stores, two grist mills, three saw mills, two lath mills, one boat yard, one coach-maker, one wagon maker, one saddle and harness-maker, one chair factory, four boot and shoe establishments, four tailors, two black smith shops, one bakery, one drug store, one physician.

This place possesses many advantages and facilities for a manufacturing town. The water power from the canal, and from the dam and race of Mr. Townsend, the proprietor, is immense—a small proportion only is at present occupied, though it is attracting the attention of capitalists in the east, who have made considerable purchases and it is still abundant.

New Brighton, whether we look to its geographical advantages, the salubrity of its atmosphere, its immense water power, its canal navigation, its steam boat facilities, its delightful plains, and the graceful native slopes by which they are connected on one hand to the receding hills, that open upon the surrounding country, and on the other, to the limpid waters of a romantic stream, that half encircles the town,—or whether we look to the inexhaustible beds of coal, of iron, of lime, of alum, of salt, and of building stone, with which the neighbourhood abounds—or to its present importance and rapid advancement in population, arts, manufactures and commerce, is evidently destined soon to become the centre of a large and flourishing town of many thousand inhabitants.

A vast amount of water power, and a great number of village and

out lots are now offered for sale, and water is about to be introduced through a conduit, from a neighbouring hill, to supply many who must be otherwise dependent on the more laborious method of raising their family supplies from wells. The recent completion of a bridge connecting this village with the village of Brighton, adds much to the importance of both these towns, as the great stage road and thoroughfare from Pittsburg to the lakes, will soon pass over this bridge and through these villages.

Fallston, situated at the foot of the Falls, on the west side of the stream, is already famous for its manufactures; which consist of woollens, cottons, paper, linseed oil, wire, scythes, buckets, window-sash, ploughs, carpets, lasts, carding machines, steam engines, &c. &c. It contains about one hundred dwelling houses, and one hundred and ten families, with eight or nine hundred inhabitants. A printing office, post office, five stores, two taverns, two saw mills, two grist mills—three smith shops, three shoe establishments, three tailors, do; one wheel-wright, one saddler, and one physician. There is also a respectable building of brick, for schools, and for religious worship, by several different denominations. In the rear of this town, is an abundance of excellent coal, which may be slid from the mouth of the pits into the kitchen yards of many of the houses.

Sharon, on the west side of Beaver, and below the mouth of Brady's Run, has a population of five or six hundred. It has an iron works, saw mill, windmill, manufactory, two chair factories, three smith shops, two tanners, one tinner, one clock-maker, several shoe makers and tailors—a Methodist church, school house, &c.—and one physician. There is also at this place, an extensive mercantile establishment, which does, in addition to its retailing, a respectable wholesale business with the surrounding country.

Bolesville—On the east side of Beaver, number of houses and families, between twenty and thirty, population about two hundred. There are at this place, two extensive boat yards, where business is annually done to the amount of perhaps twenty or thirty thousand dollars. There is also a steam saw mill, embracing one run of stones, for the grinding of grain.

Bridgewater—Situated at the west end of the bridge across the mouth of Beaver, has forty-seven frame dwelling houses, eighteen brick, three frame warehouses, one brick, do. one brick brewery and about four hundred inhabitants. There are ten stores, two taverns, two saddle and harness shops, three smith shops, two boot and shoe do., two cabinet do., two tailor do., two bakers,

one coach maker, and three boat yards—this place is separated from East Bridgewater, by the Beaver, across which there is a bridge of some five or six hundred feet in length—cost over \$20,000. This place is improving rapidly, and will no doubt soon be united to Sharon on the north, Beavertown on the west—and present a continued succession of buildings to the Ohio, south. Col. Stone, long established at Beaver Point, and well known for his extensive operations in forwarding and storing goods, as well as in keel and steam boating on the Ohio, has lately laid out about one hundred lots between Bridgewater and the point which he offers for sale, together with the island in front of his possessions, containing from five to ten acres.

Beavertown—The seat of justice for Beaver county, is situated on an elevated plain, below the mouth of Beaver, it has about one hundred dwelling houses, rising a hundred families, and between seven and eight hundred inhabitants. Its public buildings are, a court house and other county offices of brick, a stone jail, a bank and two churches—(Presbyterian and Methodist) all of brick. A post office, two printing offices, seven taverns, eight stores, two hat establishments, an extensive brewery, two tanners, one tanner, one silver smith, one wagon maker, one cooper, three tailors, two saddles, four blacksmiths, five boot and shoe makers—ten lawyers and four physicians. This place though it has remained stationary for a number of years, is now improving—several very respectable brick and wooden buildings, have been erected within the last few months, and it will, doubtless, continue to improve, as the location is a very delightful one.

Philipsburg, or new Philadelphia—A village on the south side of the Ohio river, directly opposite the mouth of the Beaver, formerly owned by Messrs. Philips and Graham, and connected with an extensive *steam boat yard*; but afterwards sold to Count de Leon and his associates. Their society having broken up, the place has remained stationary, in possession of a German population, formerly attached to that society, as joint tenants; but since the dissolution of their joint interests, they live in families, with separate interests, pursuing the industrious and frugal course, by which that people are generally characterized—their population may be from two to three hundred.

Freedom—A village on the north side of the Ohio, two miles above the mouth of the Beaver, was commenced the twentieth day of May, 1832, and in eleven months had over three hundred inhabitants. It has now fifty dwellings, sixty-three families, and four hundred and fifty inhabitants; a steam saw and grist mill, a distillery, several taverns and stores, with various mechanics, a post office, two physi-

cians, and an extensive boat yard, employing more than one hundred hands. Mr. Philips, the enterprising proprietor, turns out work to the amount of about forty or fifty thousand dollars per annum; and just above, upon the opposite side of the Ohio, is a boat yard, which will turn out about \$10,000 a year.

East Bridgewater and Fairport, quite in their incipient stage, promise soon to gain a respectable rank among their neighbours. Mr. Pinney has invested some thirty thousand dollars in lands at the above places, and is preparing to build up a large town. A wholesale store, with a capital of \$75,000 will be established at Fairport next spring. Mr. Le Baron the famous bridge-builder, has selected this place for his operations and residence, and is about to erect a steam mill by which he can furnish bridges to any part of the Mississippi valley, all framed ready for raising—we understand that the great bridge about to be erected at Louisville, 600 miles below, will be sent by him, from the mouth of Beaver—it will cost over \$400,000.

It may be remarked, in conclusion, that none of the above described eleven villages, are more than half a mile from an abundant supply of the best bituminous coal, and none more than half a mile from the neighbourhood of the canal, or steam-boat navigation—they are, with one or two exceptions, all improving rapidly, and will soon spread, and become united in one large and populous town.

There are several other villages in the county of Beaver deserving of particular notice, viz.—*Economy*, Greensburg, or Darlington, Frankford, Georgetown, Mount Jackson, &c.; but our description, when first published, was limited to the *Falls of Beaver* and their vicinity, with a brief general view of the *County of Beaver*. Of course, it could not be expected that we should go into details respecting the several villages of the county.

Economy, however, is a place of too much importance to have escaped our notice, even under the circumstances above described; but through inadvertency such was the fact in our former editions; and we feel a pleasure in bringing it forward at this time, though our present theme is *Beaver City*.

The well deserved reputation which the inhabitants of this village have maintained, for more than thirty years past, for sobriety, integrity, industry, economy, good husbandry and *thrift*, is too well known to require any thing at our hands: we shall therefore content ourselves with extracting a few paragraphs from Gordon's Gazetteer of Pennsylvania, which we believe to be substantially correct, and a few additional remarks of our own.

This town is situated on the right bank of the Ohio river, 18 miles below Pittsburg, and ten miles above the mouth of the Big Beaver. It is owned and occupied by Mr. George Rapp and his followers, (or associates) who constitute the society of the Harmonists, who emigrated to this country from *Swabia*, in Europe, on account of persecution for their religious opinions.

Mr. Rapp arrived in the United States in 1803 or 4, a year in advance of his followers, and purchased a tract of land in Butler county, adjoining the line of Beaver, which the Association settled and improved, building a town, to which they gave the name of Harmony. They planted a vineyard, built mills, reared sheep, and established a large cloth manufactory which they made profitable; but having the cultivation of *grape* much at heart, they sold their property and removed to the Wabash, in Indiana. Here they cleared a large body of land, built a beautiful village, a Cotton and Woollen Manufactory, a Brew House, a Distillery, Steam Mill, &c. but the place being thought unhealthy, they sold out to *Robert Owen*, and removed back to their present position in 1825, where they own some four or five thousand acres of land, in a high state of cultivation. Their town consists of more than 150 houses, mostly constructed on broad, rectangular streets. Among these are an elegant Church, large Woollen and Cotton Factories, Brewery, Distillery, Museum, &c. The latter is 120 feet by 50, in which they have a Concert Hall, Museum of Natural curiosities, a collection of Minerals, a Mathematical and Drawing School and Library. They purchased in 1829, \$88,946 45 value of commodities from the surrounding country, independent of articles and merchandise purchased to sell again; and of the vast amount produced upon their own extensive plantations and by their manufactories.

The labour of the community and its products are common property. Mr. George Rapp is the priest and Patriarch, who has the supervision and control of the temporal and spiritual concerns of the Society; he is now about 80 years of age; a large, good looking, venerable sage, with a long beard, hanging down upon his bosom, as white as snow; in possession of mental and bodily faculties like a man of sixty, walking, riding, preaching, &c. as he has been wont to do since he came to this country thirty years ago, after having spent half a century in Europe.

Frederick Rapp, an adopted son, for many years a leading member of the Society, as it respected temporal affairs, died in 1834, at the age of perhaps 45.

In the year 1832, a considerable number of the Society were seduced by the cunning intrigues and misrepresentations of the notorious *Count de Leon*, and induced to leave their brethren and follow him, with a belief that they would add much to their happiness by so doing. With *Leon* at their head, they settled upon the banks of the Ohio, 10 miles below, and precisely opposite the mouth of Big Beaver, at a place now called Philipsburg; but at the end of about twelve months they learned that their leader was an *impostor*, and that they had been duped by his professions of immense wealth, which he had not; he fled to Texas, where he soon died—their Association was dissolved, and the individuals scattered. A considerable number, however, continue to occupy the same place, not as a Joint Stock Community, but as private individuals, and are understood to be doing very well; a very considerable amount of manufacturing is now done by them—they have a Woollen Manufactory, Steam Saw Mill, &c. &c. The people of Economy continue to pursue the even tenor of their well regulated lives, fully exemplifying by every day's experience, the fitness of the name by which their place is called. They live in *celibacy*, as brothers and sisters, and only increase their numbers by fresh associates, chiefly from Germany. They cultivate the Mulberry with great success, and manufacture a very considerable amount of superior silks, which stand high in the market. They have probably made from their own vineyard, the present year, 1836, some 50 barrels of choice wines, which proves at least the mildness of climate in Beaver county.

Letters from Marcus T. C. Gould, New Brighton, Beaver county, Pa. to Samuel C. Atkinson.

New Brighton, September, 1835.

Dear Sir:—In compliance with your request, when I had the pleasure of waiting on you at the *Falls of Beaver*, I will improve this, my first leisure moment since your departure, to give you, as succinctly as may be convenient, a sketch of the general and local advantages of this particular district, together with a cursory glance at the city of Pittsburg and its unparalleled facilities and resources.

Notwithstanding the city of Pittsburg is already too well known to require any thing at my hand, and though placed at a distance of some thirty miles from the Falls of Beaver, yet in numerous points of view, the two places are so intimately associated (as I shall hereafter show) as to justify a description in common; for that which is true of one, is frequently no less true of the other, viz. as it respects health, climate, mineral and agricultural productions, boat building, &c. &c.

Situated as they are, near the north-eastern extremity of the great *Mississippi valley*, drained by its hundreds of rivers, navigated by their hundreds of *Steamers* and thousands of *Keel Boats*—they both enjoy in common every desirable facility of intercourse with the millions of inhabitants who already throng the borders of those numerous rivers, and are rapidly converting the forest and the prairie into gardens, orchards, vineyards and fruitful fields, for the culture of all the necessaries and many of the luxuries of civilized and refined life—not only for their own consumption, and convenience, but for ourselves, and for our eastern cities. I particularly allude to wool, silk, cotton, flax, hemp, and perhaps grapes, prunes, &c., of which latter we saw some specimens, of a very delicious flavour, as you doubtless recollect.

We are here placed at an elevation of some seven hundred feet above the level of the ocean, and from fifty to one hundred miles west of the Allegheny mountains—those mighty purifiers of the United States atmosphere, whose summits look down upon the great lakes of the north-west, the St. Lawrence of the north-east, the Delaware, the Chesapeake and the Atlantic in the east, the Gulf of Mexico south, and the Rocky Mountains west. To those at all conversant with the formation and diurnal motion of our earth, and the atmosphere which surrounds it—together with the circumstances and causes which render it more or less congenial or deleterious to human life, it is needless to offer arguments showing that this is a healthy region. I will add, however, that so long as the earth continues to revolve from west to east, so long shall we continue to enjoy on the western slope of the Allegheny mountains, and across this entire section of country, a never failing supply of the *purest mountain air*; and while thus circumstanced, we must be comparatively exempt from the unhappy influence of those predisposing causes, which make such havoc of human life, in the lower regions of the Mississippi Valley,—and even in our own latitude, at a greater distance from the mountains and great lakes.

In the latitude of about 40 deg. 30 m. we are neither chilled by the rigour of our inland oceans, nor suffocated by the relatively nonelastic vapours which serve as atmosphere, in the more southern, and less elevated portions of our Great Valley. Nor is it a fact, that being at a considerable remove from the seaboard, and from the immediate vicinity of Atlantic, European, and tropical productions, of nature and of art, we are consequently deprived of the necessaries and luxuries of life; on the contrary we are surrounded on every hand by rivers, canals, rail-roads, turnpikes and other avenues, through which every

species of traffic may be carried on with all and every portion of our own widely extended empire, and with the world at large.

After the very frequent and accurate geographical descriptions which have been given, it is hardly necessary for me to speak minutely of the general aspect of the country, or its agricultural productions—or even to state that Pittsburg was once *Fort Duquesne*, then Fort Pitt; or that, from time immemorial, it *has been*, and through ages to come will be, the grave of the *Monongahela* and *Allegheny*, but the birth place of the still more majestic *Ohio*. The Beaver River, within the last five miles of its course, falls sixty-nine feet, furnishing water power and eligible sites for 500 mills. Its confluence with the Ohio, is near the centre of the county of Beaver, which lies on both sides of both these rivers—contains 646 square miles, 35,000 inhabitants, &c. &c.—(for details and statistics respecting which, see my published chart of the Falls of Beaver and vicinity, which will soon be revised, republished, and for sale in your city and New York.)

Having happily disposed of my *details*, at *wholesale*, in the above parenthesis, you will permit me further to say, that we live in a delightfully diversified, and highly picturesque region (from which, by the by, you must get some sketches for your Casket, &c.,) abounding in living springs, and lively streams which course their rapid way in almost every direction, to irrigate and fertilize their already prolific borders, and render them more desirable for the residence of country citizens and city countrymen, like yourself and myself. These numerous little streams, or pigmy rivers, uniting their forces under various appellations, a few of which we have enumerated, assume the general cognomen of *Big Beaver*, the identity of which is, at the end of twenty-four miles swallowed *up*, at a single breakfast spell, by the infant Ohio, just commencing its course of a thousand miles, to drink its hundred rivers, and be *itself* swallowed *down*, by the still more thirsty and capacious Mississippi, in its giant course to the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic.

Nature has already given us, the Big Beaver, the Great Lakes, the Ohio, the Mississippi, and their tributaries; among which I would name, particularly, the Allegheny and Monongahela. By the aid of art, we have now, or shall soon have, canals or rail-roads to Philadelphia, to Baltimore, to Washington City, to Lake Erie, and, by two different routes, to the great Ohio Canal. At no very distant day, we shall see a rail-road from the mouth of Beaver river, by Franklin, perhaps Warren, and the neighbourhood of Olean, to the cities of Albany, New York and Boston. Let those, therefore, who believe this,

make their locations while property is cheap, or in default of so doing, ever after hold their peace, and lay not the blame at my door, for not warning and advising them in time. For I now, once for all, free my skirts upon the subject, by predicting, through this epistle, that such will be the case; and that, within ten years from this time, there will be a population of at least 20,000 about the Falls and mouth of the Beaver. Let those who doubt all this study their maps, and see whether the population of New York, New England and Lower Canada, can in any way carry on an inland commerce with the millions who are soon to inhabit the Mississippi Valley, at so cheap and rapid a rate, as by rail-roads and canals, to the *nearest* steam-boat waters of the Ohio. Should the Allegheny be rendered navigable for steam-boats, of which I have not the least doubt, it only adds another benefit to the city of Pittsburg, which is already beyond the reach of competition or rivalry; nor would we, in the slightest degree, insinuate that any future benefits which the Falls of Beaver may derive, will detract from the growth or prosperity of Pittsburg, but on the contrary, I am proud to consider the Falls of Beaver, as a suburb of that immense city, which is soon to be the wonder of the western world---a place to which this, and almost every other place within hundreds of miles, must in some respect pay tribute. But if passengers or freight, on their way from New England to New Orleans, find themselves in the region of Olean, by rail-road, and learn that the same rail-road will reach the Ohio at Beaver, some hundred and fifty miles short of the Allegheny route, by steam-boat, the shorter road will be sometimes preferred to the longer; and especially will it be preferred to the more circuitous and vexatious route of leaving the rail-road for a precarious lake navigation to Cleaveland, and then a canal navigation three hundred and sixty miles to Portsmouth, on the Ohio; with all the necessary changes and delays incident to so frequent transshipments. I will not enlarge upon this subject at present, but barely assert, that from Beaver to Franklin, by rail-road, would be but about fifty miles, whereas to follow the river, it would be about one hundred and fifty! To view this route, in its true light, it is only necessary to refer to the *state map of Pennsylvania*---but to comprehend the *true policy* of such a measure, will of course require more political acumen than I shall presume to arrogate at this time. I simply touch the subject, with a view to elicit investigation and discussion from those better qualified for the task.

Very respectfully, &c.

LETTER No. 2.

Dear Sir :---Permit me to improve another leisure moment, in continuation of the subject entered upon in my last---viz. the advantages and prospects of the Falls of Beaver, and their vicinity.

I have been frequently interrogated by my neighbours, respecting the probable object of yourself and others from the east, who have recently purchased property in this place. To these inquiries I was not prepared to give a very satisfactory answer; though I ventured to hazard the opinion, and I now repeat it---that *Rolling Mills, Foundries, &c. &c.* will soon be established near the head of the Falls---that *Woollen Factories* will probably come next in order; and that additional *Paper Mills, Cotton Factories* and *Flouring Mills* will soon have a place within the sound of Beaver Falls.

Do you think so? Why not? Have we not every thing to encourage it! Have we not immense water power to drive machinery---and are not both the sites and the power remarkably cheap---and does not the increasing population of the west actually demand more than can be supplied from existing establishments?

Perhaps it is so; and if we may believe the manufacturers in the city of Pittsburg, it is actually the fact.

Now as it respects the different species of iron, of which such vast quantities are manufactured and sent from that city---whence is it derived? Much of the crude or half wrought material passes our very doors, from Tennessee and other sections of our western country. Much of the iron from the *Juniata* and other parts of the mountain regions now finds its way *easterly* instead of coming to Pittsburg, as formerly---so much, then, for our canals---I wish we had more of them.

I have said that the crude or half wrought material passes our very doors; it is indeed so, but it returns after a very few days, *doubled in value*, to the consumers, perhaps, in the very region whence it was taken from the bowels of the earth.

Now this is all *well*, and we are willing that it should be continued; for it gives encouragement to commerce, increases our state revenue, affords employment for numerous manufacturers, mechanics, teamsters, coal diggers, coke makers, and other bread and meat eaters; and to all, handsome wages, as well as liberal profits to the more extensive proprietors and merchants who deal in it.

But if we have plenty of *Iron ore* in our own immediate neighbourhood, and coal to smelt it, upon the very bank of the stream which gives power for manufacturing, and navigation for transporting it to

any desirable market; and if, too, our lands are cheaper, rents lower, provisions, and consequently wages, not so high, and a market less remote; and if, again, water power can be procured and maintained, at less than one-fourth the cost of steam power—may we not be permitted to recommend the subject to the consideration of the public? And may not this place come in for a share of that patronage which is already so abundant, and so rapidly increasing?

Again—if hundreds of thousands of dollars are annually paid out for wool, produced within fifty miles of the Falls of Beaver, and this wool is transported east of the mountains to be *manufactured*, and the manufactured articles sent back *to be sold west of the mountains*, and in many instances to be worn by the very individuals who reared and fed the sheep and sheared the wool—and if the wool purchaser, the forwarding merchant, the eastern manufacturer and all his dependents, can make money, and sell to the wholesale dealers in our eastern cities, and they at a profit to their western customers, at such prices that they can pay transportation back to our own neighbourhood, and sell at another fair profit, over and above an interest of some three to ten per cent. upon the average investment during the time necessarily wasted in this round about operation—why would it not be a bright idea, for those interested in this matter, to use the immense water power, (which is now wasting within my hearing to no valuable purpose) in the very centre of this wool-growing region, to work up the wool of our neighbourhood and supply our own wants and those of our western neighbours?

And again—why is it that the *rags* of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, western Virginia and western Pennsylvania are sent to the neighbourhood of Philadelphia and Baltimore, to be converted into paper to supply our own western market? And why are thousands of reams of the paper that is in fact manufactured here, sent to Philadelphia and Baltimore to be stamped or stained, and then sent back for the walls of our own houses?

And why is cotton taken from the Mississippi valley to New-England, New-York and New-Jersey—and of late in considerable quantities up the Ohio and through the Pennsylvania canals, to be manufactured and sent back to us, and our western neighbours, in shirtings, sheetings and calicoes, when either and all of these articles can be as well manufactured, and at much less expense of time and money, in our own neighbourhood?

It will of course be answered, we have not the capital—we have not the machinery—we have not the workmen, mechanics, artisans, &c. &c.

Now neither of these assertions is entitled to much consideration; for we have the capital, but those who hold it have hitherto deceived themselves by supposing that they could employ it more advantageously in other pursuits. As to machinery and operatives—these difficulties will vanish, as similar objections have, to the manufacturing of Steam Engines, and every other kind of complicated and intricate machinery in iron, copper, brass, tin, lead, glass, &c. &c. in the city of Pittsburg, where it must be acknowledged, that, in many things, they even excel their eastern brethren.

The true answer to the foregoing queries is this—public attention has not been called to the subject; capitalists have not counted the cost and the saving on both sides of the question; and the chief object of this letter is, to invite them most respectfully, to do so.

Very truly, yours, &c.

LETTER No. 3.

*Dear Sir:—*You are doubtless aware, that our place has been, by some, analogically denominated the *Rochester* of the *west*—the *Rochester of Pennsylvania*, &c.

Let us enquire into the *wherefore*, and see whether facts will sustain the position.

Rochester, in the state of New York, was not known till about twenty years ago, to which fact I am a personal witness; but since that time it has grown to be a very considerable city, and for its population has always done a very considerable business, particularly in the *Flouring line*.

In the year 1811 I forded the Genessee river at a point, now the centre of Rochester, just above the first considerable Fall. At that time I was obliged to sleep in my wet clothes, upon a green oak plank, because the place afforded no better accommodations—it being then a wilderness, the night dark, and roads intolerable. I spent a long and sleepless night, amid the roar of a tremendous water fall, contending with mosquitoes, and listening to the music of owls and frogs, the only inhabitants of the place. As little did I then imagine that the place would, within twenty years, be the centre of a large manufacturing and commercial city, as do those who visit the *Falls of Beaver* imagine that in twenty years we shall have a much larger city where I now write—but it will be even so.

Since, however, Rochester has been long able to speak for itself—to speak eloquently and forcibly of its *own merits*, I will waste no

more words upon its acknowledged importance and advantages, except in illustration of *my subject—the Falls of Beaver*.

Rochester possesses tremendous water power—so do we, to a still greater extent. She is the centre of a fine agricultural region—so are we. She is within a few miles of Lake Ontario—we are still nearer to the Ohio river, whose length would circumscribe that Lake, present twice as much margin, and float as many steamboats.

Rochester has her Erie Canal—we have our Pennsylvania and Ohio Canals. She, to be sure, belongs to the Empire State—but we, to the Key State. She is some four hundred miles from the great emporium of her state—we are as near to the London of our own state. She feeds her eastern cities with bread from the west—we shall soon do the same thing as successfully as herself. She may boast of her Canada market; but we can speak of a still greater, the Mississippi valley. She has for years past drawn vast supplies of wheat and other commodities from Ohio, Michigan, &c., while we could not reach them for want of Canals and Rail-roads; but these important avenues are now in a state of rapid progress and will soon be completed, thus placing the products of Ohio some two or three hundred miles nearer to the Falls of *Beaver River* than the Falls of Genessee River; while the *former* are as near the Atlantic cities as the *latter*.

Again—her Canals and her Lakes are blockaded by frost and ice some eight or ten weeks of the year, viz: four or five weeks in the fall, and as much in the spring; while our Canals and River are thronged with every species of lucrative traffic to which the laws of our land give sanction and the enterprise of our age can suggest. The commodities of the west, in passing to Rochester, must encounter the perils of a dangerous lake, while ours may glide safely upon the unruffled bosom of our natural rivers and artificial canals, or skim across the summits of our Allegheny, triumphantly escorted by the prodigies of steam. And before the influence of a vernal sun can raise the six months *annual blockade* of ice-bound rivers, lakes, and canals, in the neighbourhood of Rochester, we shall well nigh have drained the granaries of the west to give activity to our *water wheels*, and the staff of life to those who need bread in the east.

Rochester has but two markets, New York and Canada—we have Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, and the Mississippi; and, indeed, much of the wheat and bacon of Ohio could find its way even to the city of New York itself, by the way of Pittsburg and Philadelphia, quicker and cheaper than by Rochester and Albany. But New York intends to have a *Rail-road* to Ohio—Pennsylvania will have *two or three*.

Now lest I weary your patience with this analogy and antithesis, I will leave several things unsaid till my next, and close, by remarking that Rochester has probably about reached her meridian glory—we are just emerging from the obscurity of the past, and entering upon a career which I must leave for future pens to describe.

I must finally add one or two ideas more, lest they be forgotten. Would you believe that in our very infancy the industrious mechanics about the Falls and mouth of Beaver, will have constructed and sold for cash, within the present year, no less than \$70,000 worth of *Keel Boats* to descend the Ohio river, never to return? I have this from the lips of John Boles, Esq., a principal manufacturer of the article. There is an importance which attaches to this matter that it may be well to name: Though these Boats are never to return, the demand is rapidly increasing—the materials are all found in our own neighbourhood—the work is done by our citizens, who live in their own houses, eat their own bread, and *pocket the money*, instead of sending it abroad for the purchase of raw materials, as in most other manufacturing operations. I want to say something about the building of *Steam-boats* in this neighbourhood; but inasmuch as a Steam-boat is larger than a *Plough*, and I have but little time and space remaining, I will drop the *greater* and giver you the *lesser*. I discover by the "*Pennsylvania Advocate*" that a Mr. Hall, of the city of Pittsburg, turns out from sixty to seventy-five completely finished ploughs daily, and from nine thousand to twelve thousand annually. The writer says that, when visiting his establishment a few days ago, a gentleman was present, receiving and shipping for the west and south-west, to a single order, over three thousand of Mr. Hall's *latest, revised, and improved edition*. Is it not prodigious? Why, Mr. Hall, you absolutely eclipse *your hopeful cousin Basil in America*.

Very truly, yours, &c.

LETTER No. 4.

Dear Sir:—You recollect I was upon the point of saying a few words upon the subject of *Steam-boat building* in my last communication, but waived it for want of room; I have no such excuse at this time.

I need not inform you that our neighbour Pittsburg has been for many years famous for her manufacture of *Steam Engines, Boilers, &c. &c.* for Boats; though it is not so generally known that she excels in the construction of the *entire Boat*. It is not at all surprising,

however, that *this* should be the case, since her patronage is so lucrative and abundant as to command the services of the most accomplished ship builders, smiths, carpenters, riggers, painters, &c. &c. to be found in the United States, who, by constant employment acquire a degree of experience in their respective departments not to be looked for where operations are less extensive.

But it is truly surprising, to those unacquainted with our circumstances and facilities, that so great a proportion of the two or three hundred steamboats upon our western waters should have been constructed in and about the city of Pittsburgh; and still more wonderful, that engines and boilers should be sent from Pittsburg to the Atlantic cities, to the northern lakes, and to most of the points on our western waters, where the *wood work* of boats is occasionally constructed; and that agents should be actually despatched from the *Savannah*, the *Altamaha*, the *Apalachicola*, and other streams in the south, to have Steamboats built in this neighbourhood, and sent by the Ohio, the Mississippi, and the gulf of Mexico, to their place of destination. And why is it so? Because they can be thus procured, though at a distance of thousands of miles, both *cheaper* and *better in quality* than in any other part of the world.

Now this may be counted by some a very small matter;—but when we see this voluntary tribute paid, by the intelligent population of such distant regions, to the superior skill and cheapness of our manufactures, it speaks volumes in our praise; and speaks, too, in language which the whole United States must soon understand, as I will endeavour more fully to demonstrate, in some future epistle. I shall even now be enabled the better to make you comprehend the reason of my speaking of Pittsburg in connexion with this neighbourhood; for in fact the \$70,000 worth of *keel boats* mentioned in my last, though constructed and launched in Beaver county, are most of them purchased by Pittsburgers, and not unfrequently built by their express orders, and sent to their city to receive their finish. And as it respects the *new Steam Boats*, which hail from that city, a very considerable number of them are in fact built and launched here, but sent there to receive their enginery, cabin work, painting, rigging, &c. For instance—Mr. Phillips, of Freedom, two miles from the mouth of Beaver, will have constructed within the present year, no less than eight *Steam Boats*, worth in his hands from forty to fifty thousand dollars, and when completed not less than one hundred thousand dollars—and these are all sent to Pittsburg to be finished—for sale, freight or charter.

Another important idea this moment occurs to my mind; it is this—to establish and carry on Cotton factories, Woollen factories, &c. requires an immense expenditure for buildings, for machinery, for stock, &c. whilst the whole outfit of a *Boat Yard*, costs but a few hundred dollars; hence the great safety and exemption from risk by fire, expense of insurance, and interest on heavy investments. If, therefore, we may hazard a conjecture upon the subject, there is no branch of mechanical industry, of equal magnitude, in our country, which pays so great a profit upon the capital invested; and from present appearances, there is no danger of the business declining, but on the other hand, it must unavoidably increase, manyfold.

But for the sake of variety, permit me to say, I have just heard, that what I predicted some seven years ago, respecting the ploughing of our western prairies by *locomotive engines*, instead of eight and ten cattle teams, is already verified—that engines have been constructed in Pittsburg and sent on for that particular object, and there remains but little doubt of entire success. This opens a new era in the department of agriculture; and now, while I think of it—though you may be at a loss to discover a very intimate connexion of subjects, I will mention, by way of showing the various shifts to which *yankee ingenuity* and *wooden enterprise* are sometimes put, in the *back woods*, as you good city folks describe our *whereabouts*—that a very few weeks after the first twenty-four miles of our Beaver Canal was completed, an adventure of some hundred and twenty or thirty tons of *hay* was started from the neighbourhood of Newcastle for the New-Orleans market, a distance of two thousand miles *inland*! It cost about four dollars a ton, and sold for about forty dollars! Several thousand bushels of *potatoes* were soon sent from Beaver county, from seven hundred to two thousand miles down the Ohio and Mississippi, and sold for about one dollar and a half per bushel, having cost but about thirty cents from the farmer. And it is now almost three years, since I was informed, that not less than eight hundred tons of cheese had been shipped in a single season from the mouth of Beaver, although that was before the completion of our canal. I was at the same time informed, that there are single townships in Ohio, not a hundred miles from us, and directly on the line of our *Mahoning canal*, which townships, though but five or six miles square, can turn out annually two hundred tons of cheese! Now in the midst of such a country, with such inhabitants, such enterprise, such resources and facilities, ~~what~~ *what can we not do*—indeed, *what shall we not do*, that is

honourable and fair, among our fellow citizens? I cannot stay to answer you at this time. Yours, &c.

LETTER No. 5.

Dear Sir:—I closed my last letter by asking the question—what shall we not do, &c.? which I had not time to answer. I will devote *this* to answering *that question*, and asking *another*.

We shall not be long behind any other town west of the Allegheny mountains, for the variety, quality and extent of our manufactures, (Pittsburg excepted.) We shall not long hear the inquiry, where is Brighton? Where is Fallston? Where are the Falls of Beaver? Where is Beaver county, Pennsylvania? Or where shall we most advantageously invest a few hundred or a few thousand dollars in town lots or other real estate, with a prospect of realizing from one hundred to one thousand per cent. in three or four years? Or where is the best water power west of the mountains? Is it a fact that water power is vastly cheaper than steam power? Or, do you think the Mahoning Canal, the Sandy and Beaver Canal, and the Erie Canal will be ever completed; and if ever completed, will the stock be good?

Again—since the recent visits of some of your eagle-eyed, jealous, and decisive New York neighbours to our place, I shall not be much surprised, if, after all that has been done and said, by a few of your enlightened citizens, your board of Trade, and your capitalists, towards the construction of the Mahoning Canal, to connect the great state improvements of Pennsylvania and Ohio—the money loving, but tardy, and over cautious citizens of Philadelphia, should allow the golden moments to pass, until every thing worth possessing, at the Falls of Beaver, and along the line of the Mahoning Canal, shall have been secured by New York capital, and till New York capitalists shall have entrenched themselves within the very centre of our western granaries, and say to the people of Pennsylvania, we have had our Little Falls upon the Mohawk, our Rochester upon the Genessee, our Massillon upon the Tuscarawas, and we now have the Falls of Beaver, from which, and to which, we shall soon have every desirable facility, through every point of the compass. We will make it our great western distributing office, for flour, &c. &c. &c. We have long had the *Lock*; but we have now obtained the *magic Key*, which alone secures our treasures. Let Pennsylvania no more boast of being the *Key State*, since she has allowed this *last*, this *most impor-*

tant Lock, to be to *her* hermetically sealed, by *capital* from *Gotham*. I say again, we shall not be surprised, if, before you and your rich neighbours of brotherly love shall have made up your minds to take the key of western Pennsylvania into your own hands, when offered to you, others should step in, and the doors be closed against you.

Now you may think me too importunate, if not too impertinent, upon this subject;—but, judge as you will, I honestly believe every word I say, when I tell you *now* is the time. It would be folly for me to pretend that I am altogether a disinterested patriot in this matter, because it is known that I am an acting agent for the purchase and sale of very considerable quantities of town and other property in the vicinity of Beaver Falls and the Mahoning Canal; for all of which, I am proud to acknowledge there is beginning to be an urgent demand. But having recently spent a few weeks in the large cities and towns of New York, and other States, I am not altogether ignorant of recent and *contemplated speculations* in certain parts of the United States. This, together with my former intimate acquaintance with the rise and progress of some other cities and towns of the Union, must be my apology for speaking with confidence, and with such degree of earnestness as I think befitting the occasion; for no harvest lasts all the year.

I shall be in your city from the 5th till the 17th of October, and if you or your friends wish to know more upon the subjects of which I have treated in my late, and present hurried communications, I shall be happy to wait on them; and with that view shall come prepared, as agent, for many of my neighbours, with plots and descriptions of all that is most desirable for commercial, manufacturing, and other objects, at and about the Falls and mouth of Beaver River.

For the information of mechanics and others, who are now turning their attention towards us, permit me to say, in addition to what you have so well said, in your Post, respecting the probability of finding employment in the neighbourhood of Pittsburg and Beaver—that rents are very reasonable in the villages about Beaver—say one-fourth as much as in Philadelphia—for every species of material employed in building, is cheap, and generally abundant. Provisions, though much higher than when I first settled here, are still comparatively low, if we look to the prices in your city; and fuel so low, as scarcely to be named among other expenses, that is, by myself, after having lived many years in New York and Philadelphia. Wood, at our doors, is \$1,25 cts. a cord; coal from \$4,50 to \$6,00, the hundred bushels.—Veal, mutton, beef, pork, &c. from 3 to 5 cts. per lb.; butter, from 9 to 12½ cts.; flour \$4,50 per barrel; potatoes, usually 25 cts. per bush-

el; turnips, $18\frac{3}{4}$; chickens, $18\frac{3}{4}$ to 25 cts. a pair; eggs, $6\frac{1}{4}$ cts. a dozen. Large village lots may yet be had—say 40 to 50 feet front, by 150 to 200 feet deep, for prices, varying, according to the streets and locations, from \$40 to \$300 each; and out lots of from 1 to 10 acres, within a mile or two of the town, from 30 to \$100 per acre, and farms in various parts of the county, unimproved, at 2 to \$10. I am interested, as agent, in the sale of about two hundred farms, in this county, varying from one hundred to three hundred acres each, many of them have improvements, of twenty to a hundred acres, with dwellings, barns, orchards, &c.; prices, from 7 to \$20 per acre. The terms of sale are various, from cash in hand, to one-half, one-third, one-fourth, or one-fifth in hand, and the balance in annual payments, from one to five years, usually with interest.

Furniture for houses, such as cabinetware, chairs, iron, tin, copper, brass, glass, &c. &c. are about as cheap here as in Philadelphia; but facilities for moving, by the Pennsylvania Canals and Rail-road are such, that sooner than sacrifice much by a hurried sale, it would be better for emigrants to bring with them their most essential articles, as it probably will not cost more than fifty dollars for a common family, with beds and other portable articles, sufficient for a commencement, to reach the mouth of Beaver, by Canal and Rail-road to Pittsburg, and by steam-boats to Beaver, of which we have three regular daily lines.

Yours, respectfully, till I see you in Philadelphia,

MARCUS T. C. GOULD.

To S. C. ATKINSON, Esq. }
Philadelphia. }

New-Brighton, Sept. 28, 1835.

Soon after the publication of the foregoing letters, the writer visited Philadelphia, for the purpose of forming an Association for the Culture of Mulberry and Manufacturing of Silk. The result of which may be more fully known by the following:

PREAMBLE.

Whereas, it is believed that the Culture of the Mulberry tree and the manufacture of Silk, will soon become objects of deep interest in Pennsylvania, and particularly in Beaver County, where they have been successfully prosecuted for several years, by the Society at Economy; and whereas real estate may now be purchased at a low rate in the vicinity of Beaver River, which is eligibly situated and

well adapted—and whereas, in pursuance of the proceedings already had in our Legislature, with a view to the encouragement of the Culture of the Mulberry, by the incorporation of companies, which shall have planted, and successfully cultivated a certain number of the White Mulberry—and whereas *we*, the subscribers, have complied with the requirements as above, do therefore associate ourselves under the name and title of, &c.

Articles of Association of the Beaver Silk Culture and Manufacturing Company of Pennsylvania.

The capital stock of this company shall be Fifty Thousand Dollars,* divided into one thousand shares of Fifty Dollars each. No individual shall be entitled to more than one-tenth of the entire stock of said company.

President, Samuel C. Atkinson. *Trustees*, John B. Trevor, Dr. M. B. Smith. *Treasurer*, George W. Ash. *Secretary*, E. Burke Fisher. *Acting Manager*, Marcus T. C. Gould. *Directors*, Samuel C. Atkinson, John B. Trevor, Dr. M. B. Smith, William Neil, Jesper Harding, Chas H. Kerk, Mark Richards, James Patterson, of Beaver, John Dickey, do. Ovid Pinney, do.

Soon after the organization of the Society they purchased property near the mouth and Falls of Beaver to the amount of sixty or seventy thousand dollars, to which they have since made some valuable additions; and on the 12th day of January, 1836, they obtained from the Governor, under the great seal of the State, the following Charter, the act for which was in April last amended, by increasing the capital stock from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

Pennsylvania, ss. In the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, JOSEPH RITNER, GOVERNOR OF THE SAID COMMONWEALTH, to all whom these presents shall come, sends greeting:

Whereas, in and by an act of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, passed the fourth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-two, it is amongst other things provided and enacted, that when it shall be proved to the satisfaction of the Governor of the Commonwealth that a company has associated together to cultivate the White Mulberry, for the production of Silk, in any county in this State, and that they have actually set out one

* The act authorizing the Charter was so amended at the last session of our Legislature, as to allow an increase of capital to \$100,000; and the stock of the company was accordingly thus increased, viz. 2000 shares, of \$50 each, \$100,000.

thousand or more white mulberry trees, he is authorized to issue his letters patent under the seal of the State, constituting the individuals so associated together and named, and their successors, a corporation in law, with a capital not exceeding the sum of fifty thousand dollars: *And whereas*, it has been duly certified to the Governor, that under the authority contained in the said Act of the General Assembly, a number of individuals have associated together for the purposes of the said Act, by the name of "The Beaver Silk Culture and Manufacturing Company of Pennsylvania;" and that the articles of association of the said company have received the sanction of the Court of Common Pleas of the county of Beaver; and it appearing that in all respects the requirements and enactments of the Legislature have been fully complied with: *Now know ye*, that in pursuance of the power and authority to me by law given in and by the said Act of the General Assembly, I, Joseph Ritner, Governor of the said Commonwealth, do, by these presents, which I have caused to be made patent and sealed with the great seal of the State, create all and every of the subscribers to the said articles of association, that is to say, Mark Richards, Samuel C. Atkinson, William Neil, Jesper Harding, Samuel H. Tyson, George W. Ash, Thomas C. Bradbury, Jno. B. Trevor, George Gilbert, Joshua L. Taylor, Edmund Burke Fisher, Edward Parker, Charles H. Kirk, Morgan Ash, Mark Richards, Samuel Tiller, Benjamin Matthias, Charles Alexander, Jacob Culp, George Peterson, William L. Newbold, Mahlon Atkinson, M. B. Smith, Samuel L. Newman, James Patterson, of Brighton, Marcus T. C. Gould, Edward Hoops, Evan Pugh, Francis Hoops, D. Townsend, Ovid Pinney, E. K. Chamberlin, John Pugh, John Dickey, M. F. Champlin, John Miner, John Macomb, Jonas C. Tanner, Elihu T. Pugh, Stephen Stone, and Titus W. Powers, and their successors, into one body politic and corporate, in deed and in law, by the name, style and title of "The Beaver Silk Culture and Manufacturing Company of Pennsylvania," and under the said name they shall have power to cultivate and manufacture Silk within the said county, with a capital stock not exceeding fifty thousand dollars; may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded; have a common seal, perpetual succession, full power to make by-laws for the organization and management of the Company and its concerns; and to enjoy all the rights, and to be subject to the duties and liabilities usual to corporate bodies; and generally to have, possess and enjoy, all the authority, rights and privileges that are given and granted; and to be subject to all the duties, qualifications, provisos, reservations, re-

strictions, and penalties, that are required and enjoined upon them in and by the said Act of the General Assembly.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the Commonwealth at Harrisburg, this twelfth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-six, and of the Commonwealth the sixtieth.

BY THE GOVERNOR.

THOMAS H. BURROWS,
Secretary of the Commonwealth.

The following extract from the Fallston and Brighton Gazette will show a little of what has been since done by the Company.

“To those interested in the culture of silk, in the prosperity of Beaver county, and the growing importance of western Pennsylvania, it will be gratifying to learn that the “Beaver Silk Culture and Manufacturing Company,” organized in November, and chartered January 12, 1836, have, in pursuance of their original design and the provisions of their charter, not only secured the requisite quantity of lands for the growth of their Mulberry, and water power for their future Manufactories, but have now growing not less than 40,000 of the Italian Mulberry, several hundred of which are from two to five feet high. About one thousand of these trees were transplanted from the ground of James Patterson, of Brighton, Beaver county; about two thousand from the nursery of Owen Williams, of Chester county, Pa.; the remainder are from the seeds sown last spring, of which they used several pounds, some of it at an expense of \$15 a lb. It is also in contemplation to transplant from the neighbouring forests, in the spring, all the native Mulberry that can be conveniently procured, and to engraft upon the branches the Italian and Chinese Mulberry, after the manner of the people at Economy, in this county. If, then, the operations of our association continue to be even as prosperous as they have been for the few brief months since we entered upon our labours, not only the citizens of Beaver county, but the citizens of western Pennsylvania, and indeed of the United States, may be proud of our efforts. Present appearances would indicate that in one or two years a very considerable amount of silk can and will be manufactured at the Falls of Beaver, near to which, the present nurseries and orchards of the Company are situated.”

Since the organization of the Silk Company there has been an almost continued series of Legislative enactments—formation of companies, developements of mineral wealth, &c. &c., calculated to enhance the value of property and add to the importance of the Falls of Beaver, thus clearly proving that what was two years ago called visionary anticipation is now sober reality, and that the City of Beaver will soon hold a conspicuous place among the cities of the United States.

See the following article from a Fallston paper.

OPENING PROSPECTS OF BEAVER COUNTY.

MR. J. B. THOMAS:—As you have recently become a resident of our county, it is not expected that you can at once grasp the variety of different objects and subjects which surround you in your new position; and we take the liberty, therefore, to tender the following paragraphs, which you are at liberty to insert or reject, as you please, in your next paper.

In addition to all that nature and art had done for this county previous to the last few months, a description and enumeration of which I have from time to time attempted as a leisure moment permitted, or as I was prompted by the unfolding of events, (most of which descriptions and statements have doubtless fallen under your observation,) a number of small matters are at this moment presented to my mind, which I will briefly enumerate, viz:

1. We have the assurance of an early completion of the Sandy and Beaver Canal to the mouth of Beaver. The completion, by the state, of the extension of Pennsylvania Canals from Beaver to Erie, connecting with the Mahoning Canal below New Castle, and both centring at the mouth of Beaver.

2. The assurance of a Rail-road from Conneaut to Beaver, and another from Cleveland to Beaver, with a strong probability of others from Grand River and Ashtabula, intersecting the before mentioned, and ultimately all finding their termination at the mouth of Beaver, where they will meet a Rail-road to be constructed from Pittsburg to Beaver, agreeably to the provisions of an act of the last session of our Legislature.

3. The certainty of a branch of the United States Bank, located at New Brighton; of a bridge from New Brighton to Fallston, like the one from New Brighton to Brighton, and also one at Sharon, like the one at Bridgewater; the addition of two or three mills, one woollen factory, one bucket factory, one oil mill, one sash factory, &c. at Fallston; one woollen factory, one establishment for the manufacturing of cotton gins, &c. at New Brighton, a company Hotel 100 feet

square, a Steamboat to ply daily between Pittsburg and the Falls of Beaver; an extensive foundry, and an establishment for the manufacturing of steam engines, boilers, &c. &c. at Freedom, which, with some two hundred dwellings, will make a very considerable addition to the appearance and importance of the group of villages now clustered round the mouth and Falls of Beaver, and constituting the elements of Beaver City.

4. It is worthy of remark that, within the last year, a company, chiefly in Philadelphia, with a charter from the state and a capital of \$100,000, have purchased extensively about the Falls and mouth of Beaver, with a view to the growing and manufacture of silk; that a Beaver County Insurance Company, with from two to four hundred thousand dollars capital, was chartered last spring; and will soon be in operation; that companies from New York, Buffalo, and other places, have recently made liberal investments among us; that individuals from several of the different states, and particularly from all the manufacturing districts, are constantly among us, admiring our unequalled facilities for manufacturing. We have just been informed of a new enterprise in our county, viz: the extensive cultivation of the sugar beat, as one of the most promising and lucrative branches of American industry now before the public. An extensive rope-walk is also in contemplation near the mouth of Beaver, to be owned and carried on by persons from Philadelphia and Pittsburg. And when we consider the fact, that we have in our immediate vicinity no less than fifteen or twenty yards for the making of steam-boats and keel boats, we cannot doubt that a rope establishment is needed and will be profitable.

We are told that another boat building town, to be called Industry, is now growing up a little below the mouth of Beaver, as did the town of Freedom, for the same object, some two or three years ago. We wish them all success. The Sandy and Beaver Canal must pass directly through their yard at Industry,—so much the better. Nor have we been more gratified by any of the above enumerated developments, than by intelligence, from good authority, that extensive potteries are absolutely to be commenced in our vicinity, without delay; but I have said sufficient for the present. Yours, &c.

M. T. C. GOULD.

ALUM ROCKS AND ALUM CLAY OF BEAVER.

MR. CHAMBERLIN:—Unwilling that a subject of so much interest to the Falls of Beaver should be longer neglected for want of a more

able pen I have determined to broach the matter, by way of eliciting a degree of public attention, and hoping, at the same time, to attract the notice and perhaps the interposition,—of those more scientific than myself, or any of my neighbours,—in relation to the immense quantities of alum slate, alum stone, and alumine of this vicinity.

We all hear of “THE ALUM ROCK,” upon the west bank of the Beaver, overlooking the lower Falls, and the several villages of Brighton, New Brighton, Fallston, &c.;—nor is there a youth, or scarcely an adult, within miles of us (except the decrepid and infirm) who has not visited “the Rock” and pocketed a portion of the alum which is there found, in various degrees of perfection—some very pure and perfectly formed.

We are further told that in the early settlement of the country, for want of the imported article, it was employed by the matrons of the neighbourhood, in their attempts at domestic colouring, or dying, and with highly satisfactory results.

We know further, that a very scientific mineralogist and chemist visited this neighbourhood, some years ago, and after testing several specimens of the alumine of the vicinity, pronounced it *equal*, if not *superior*, to any known to exist in the United States, and perhaps in the world. He would have gladly entered upon the manufactory of the article, as a business promising a very rich reward, for the necessary investment and labour; but he possessed not the pecuniary means, neither did our neighbourhood, in the then infancy of its settlement; and we have since been too busily engaged, in building up the *City of Beaver*, upon other, more ostensible merits, to give this subject a passing hint.

We simply hear, and know the facts, that a few individuals have been making themselves rich, by digging, transporting and selling the crude material, to the manufacturers of glass and Iron in Pittsburg and Wheeling, where it is employed for crucibles and various other purposes; and that others, by converting the aluminous clay into fire bricks, stone jugs, &c. have been alike successful. We further know, that this clay has been used with the most satisfactory results, for various purposes in which putty is usually employed, and wherever immense heat is to be resisted; and that it is frequently employed to extract grease spots from the silk dresses of our fashionable ladies, and from the frequently scrubbed floors of our tidy and dirt-hating housewives of the vicinity, as well as for whitewashing, in the place of lime, and cleaning brass and silver in the place of rotten stone, whiting, chalk, &c. for all of which purposes it has been highly recommended.

But we yesterday, for the first time, witnessed an attempt, by a

gentleman from the city of New York, to fabricate, from the crude material, in its native form, a specimen of porcelain for the table, and if you can believe the fact, the *pie dish* which we had the pleasure of exhibiting to yourself and lady, last evening, had been dug from the hill east of my house, not twelve hours before; and with no other instrument than the hands and a knife, converted into the highly creditable specimen in question.

After such a beginning, we cannot but indulge the hope, that in addition to the huge alum rocks that overlook the Beaver; and the yawning caverns from which the subterranean clay merchant wheels the unshapely masses of alumine, destined for the manufactories of other cities and towns, we shall soon see the smoke ascending from numerous well constructed chemical laboratories, potteries, and porcelain establishments—for which, certainly, no place in this country holds out such facilities. From the best information which we have been able to obtain upon the subject, we doubt whether any of the present existing infant establishments of the United States—the more extensive manufactories of Liverpool, or the still more numerous porcelain potteries of Severs in France, can boast of better, or more abundant materials—a more sure market, or more liberal prices than could be found in this vicinity.

Before I close, permit me to add—that common alum consists of sulphuric acid, alumine, potash and water. It is produced in the greatest quantities in the vicinity of Naples, though found in several other countries and particularly near the foot of the Andes, in South America.

The amount of alum employed in arts and manufactories is very immense; and the consumption in this country, in all its various forms, will soon render it a matter of vast magnitude to this particular district.

It is employed to increase the hardness of tallow, to remove grease from printers' cushions and blocks, in calico manufactories—to render turbid water limpid—in dying or colouring it is used to cleanse and open the pores of the substances to be coloured—it is used in the composition of crayons—in tannery and in medicine. The best porcelain clay contains about half its weight of alumine, which is, indeed, its most important property; but in the rude and imperfect state of manufactories and arts in this vicinity—the aluminous clays of which we have such inexhaustible quantities, have been chiefly employed for fire bricks, for stone pottery, crucibles, &c. &c.

Should these brief hints answer the purpose intended, that is, to call the attention of those more competent than myself to decide, able

to execute, and willing to embark in some of the enterprises at which I have glanced, I shall be satisfied; if not, you may hear from me again upon the subject, when a leisure moment will permit.

Yours, &c.

MARCUS T. C. GOULD,

New Brighton, Beaver City.

September 12, 1836.

BEAVER CITY.

MR. CHAMBERLIN:—Having recently passed three or four days in Pittsburg, where I had occasion, daily, to refer to the register of names, at the principal hotels, I discovered, each day, the arrival of individuals from most of the considerable towns of the United States; from New-York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Cincinnati, Louisville, New Orleans, Wheeling, &c. &c. and among others, a very respectable number from my own immediate neighbourhood, and of my own personal acquaintance, though registered under a dozen different *village names*. Our proximity to, and our intimate business connexions and facilities with the city of Pittsburg, will doubtless continue to show a greater number of visitors from *Beaver* than from any city or town in the United States, great or small; but of what account is it, except to those who are familiar with the names by which our inhabitants are accustomed to designate their respective locations.

Myself and a half dozen of my neighbours start for Pittsburg, in one boat, and on the same business, if you please, but having arrived in town, as if intentionally to destroy the identity of our location and interests, we register, one from Brighton, one from New Brighton, one from Fallston, one from Sharon, another from Bridgewater, &c. &c. The effect of such a course, however trifling it may appear to some, has struck me with peculiar force—that persons coming from the same neighbourhood, living daily in open view of each other, and mingling with each other in the business concerns of life, like residents of different wards in a city, should, every time they go abroad, do an act, publicly, and in writing too, which, to all but their own neighbours, would appear to make them aliens and strangers to each other; and thus fritter away the importance of their position at home, by cutting it into a dozen fractions, and labelling each with some favourite local name, which is of no kind of importance, except for convenience among ourselves while at home.

The truth is, that at and about the mouth and Falls of Beaver, where there are now clustered some five or six thousand enterprising inhabitants, will soon be found a population that would do credit to the name *City*; and inasmuch as we have Beaver county, Beaver river, Beaver Borough, Beaver Branch of Pittsburg Bank, Beaver Branch of the United States Bank, Beaver Boats, Beaver Canals, Beaver Rail Roads, and innumerable other Beavers; and since it *is so*, and *will be so*, that strangers, as well as ourselves when abroad, speak of the Beaver Mails, the Beaver stages, the Beaver Manufactories, &c. &c. without regard to our Bolesvilles, and our Fairports, I venture to propose that we henceforth, when abroad, at least, consider ourselves all citizens of BEAVER CITY—using this term, as a general name, by which our *whereabouts may be known*, to those who care not whether we reside in Brighton, Fallston, Sharon, or any other segment of our two or three mile circle—whether New Brighton, Bolesville, Hinesville, Fairport, Freedom, Bridgewater, North Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, Beavertown, or Philipsburg—all of which names are in common daily use by my neighbours, both at home and abroad.

As well might the citizens of Philadelphia, when abroad, enter their names from Southwark, Kensington, Moyamensing, Passyunk, Spring Garden, Northern Liberties, &c.; or from Dock Ward, Locust Ward, Mulberry Ward, or North Ward. Or the citizens of Pittsburg register their names as from Bayardstown, Birmingham, Haity, Sheffield, or Pipetown.

It is known to many, or at least *believed by many*, that our little group of villages will soon constitute one consolidated or continuous town from the mouth of Beaver to the head of the Falls, and whether or not we ever unite under one city government, I think it high time that we cast about for a *name sufficiently large* to cover the cause of the foregoing complaints, and I know of no other name, which, under the circumstances of our case, would at all answer the end. To select any other, among the dozen names of our neighbourhood, would lead to jealousy, strife and disagreement among the rival sections, and perpetuate the very evil which it is proposed to remedy.

Assuming the general name of *Beaver City*, will impose on us no additional burthens or liabilities, while, in the sight of those at a distance it will tend to consolidate and unite us, as a people, as in fact we are, indissolubly united by a thousand ties of social, religious, political, and pecuniary interest; it will help to give us a name in the earth, which will soon be known for hundreds of miles around, as are the names of Wellsville, Steubenville, Brownsville, New Lisbon, &c.—none of which towns have a population equal to our own, though

ten times as much known abroad, in consequence of their *oneness*, and well established *identity*.

But while we adhere to our Sharons, our Bridgewaters and our Fairports, to the neglect of a *general name*, we are like scattered embers that produce no heat or light.

Notwithstanding we shall pass under one common appellation *abroad*, we shall probably continue to maintain our separate and distinctive local affinities, at *home*—to have our own neighbourhood, or village rules and regulations, and to be known by our own particular proper names, as are the several children of one household or family. If, then, we ever grow into a large town or city, we shall deserve, and doubtless receive from some source, a name, at some future time; and if we do not thus grow, after all that nature and art have done for us, instead of deserving a *dozen names*, we shall hardly merit *one*; much less the *eleven* or *twelve*, by which we have been begging to be called.

I shall, therefore, from this time forward, consider myself a resident of BEAVER CITY.

a BEAVER.

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